

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Receipt of the Applicant's Amendment filed on 08/12/2009 is acknowledged. The amendment includes the amending of claims 1-2, 6, 10, 15, 17, and 19, and the cancellation of claims 7, 11-12, and 14.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. The rejections raised in the office action mailed on 12/05/2008 have been overcome by applicant's amendments received on 08/12/2009.

Examiner's Amendment

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicant's representative Mr. Donald Wenskey (Reg. No 32,661) on October 06, 2009.

4. The application has been amended as follows:

In Claim 15, after "deciding access rights in the database retrieval by the query expression based on decision results of access rights for the individual path expressions extracted from the query expression using a query expression access right decision unit", **delete** ";" and **insert** ".".

In Claim 19, after "described in a form of a structured document by controlling a computer," **insert** "the program encoded on the computer,".

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-3, 6, 10, 13, 15, 17, and 19 are allowed and now renumbered as claims 1-9.

Reasons for Allowance

6. The following is an examiner's statement for reasons for allowance:

Prior art fails to teach a combination of an information processor to analyze the right of access to a database having a data file in a form of a structured document, the

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information processor comprising: a database storing an XML document; a preliminary access rights analysis device which decides, based on path expressions describing retrieval conditions used in retrieval for the database and an access control policy describing access control rules, to which one of 1) always permitted, 2) always denied, and 3) indeterminate access right in the database retrieval using the path expressions corresponds, said preliminary access rights analysis device deciding said access rights without retrieving said XML document if said access right is always permitted or always denied, and wherein if said access right is indeterminate, then said database retrieval system access said XML document to determine an access right; a query automaton generation unit for generating a query automaton from a path expression in which a retrieval condition for the database is described, wherein said path expression is extracted from a query requesting access to said database; and

a query expression access right decision unit for deciding access rights in the database retrieval by the query expression based on decision results of access rights, which are obtained by the operation unit, for the individual path expressions extracted from the query expression, as recited in independent claims 1, 6, 10, 13, 17, and 19.

Specifically, the prior art teaches modifying a first data volume while a second data volume is being refreshed to the contents of the first data volume, but does not suggest modifying data of a second data volume while that second data volume is being refreshed to the contents of a first data volume.

These features, together with the other limitations of the independent claims are novel and non-obvious over the prior art of record. The dependent claims 4-9, 12-13, 18-23, and 26 as being definite, enabled by the specification, and further limiting to the independent claim, are also allowable.

Contact Information

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mahesh Dwivedi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2731. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8:20 am – 4:40 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Vo can be reached (571) 272-3642. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mahesh Dwivedi
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2168

October 07, 2009

/Mahesh H Dwivedi/

Examiner, Art Unit 2168

/Tim T. Vo/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2168